

# THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC

How the Election News was Received—  
Anger of the Rebels.

From Our Special Correspondent.  
HARRIS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Nov. 13, 1864.  
The fine weather of the past few days has not passed by unimpaired by the troops. Drills are frequent, and squad companies and regiments are seen daily on the plains in the rear of our line, perfecting themselves in the various evolutions necessary to their efficiency as soldiers. The drills are mostly confined to the new levies lately entering the army, and notwithstanding the fact that three-fourths of them have never before held "the tented field," they seem to be making encouraging progress in the mastery of their new duties.

## THE NEWS OF THE ELECTION.

"Shall he be killed in Christian burial that willfully seeks his own damnation?" facetiously queried a high private, taking some liberty with a similar Shakespearean interrogation, and addressing himself to a group of fellow-soldiers who had just received intelligence of the political defeat of McClellan. Another remarked that he had intended himself so effectively that the services of a grave-digger would be quite unnecessary. Throughout the army the intelligence of the triumph of the Union cause was received with the greatest satisfaction, but no noisy demonstrations occurred, except in front of Gen. De Trobriand's Brigade, where a patriotic discussion between the pickets of the two armies led to an hour's spiteful fight.

## A FREE DISCUSSION AND WHAT CAME OF IT.

On Wednesday night an unusual occurrence took place in front of Fort Bell, where for months past garrison duty has been constant and uninterrupted. By mutual arrangement all time was for a time suspended, the "Johnnies" being intensely anxious to learn the result of the election on the day previous. Enough had been heard to justify the belief that the Union cause had triumphed. And the probable result was shouted across to the enemy, whose charges were finally vented in volleys of "Little Mac" and the application of harsh epithets to his successful rival.

Thus, the discussion, which, at first, was carried on good naturedly, finally degenerated into the exchange of abusive personalities, and the scene was soon brought to a termination by a sudden volley from the "Johnnies," whose exasperation knew no bounds when from one side three times three were given for "Lincoln and the Union." This abrupt response did not catch our men napping, however, and the clash from the enemy's guns had scarcely disappeared before an answering volley was hurled back, and for nearly an hour the rattle of musketry was incessant. Fort Bell also joined in the general din, and greeted the enemy with a score or two of mortar shells. During this commotion the novel exhibition of the collision of two immense bombs in mid-air was witnessed by thousands of spectators.

The result of course was that both sides "went to ground" at the same time, leaving a shower of sparks to follow their descent.

## MOVEMENTS OF THE ENEMY.

Large bodies of the enemy were discovered yesterday moving in front and to the left of the Second Corps. Whatever the enemy's intentions are he will find us fully prepared at every point.

## PERSONAL.

The commissioned officers of his brigade have recently presented Brig.-Gen. Thomas A. Smith with a magnificent personal outfit, consisting of a sword, sash and belt, epaulettes, shoulder straps and chevrons, and the officers and men of the 1st Delaware, his former regiment, with a splendid charger and equipments. Gen. Smith is one of the few who earned his promotion by long and valorous service in the field, and the presentation of these valuable testimonials evinces the esteem in which he is held by the members of his command.

## IMPORTANT FROM THE SHENANDOAH.

### DOAH.

#### Two Cavalry Fights and Two Victories.

The news from the Shenandoah Valley is highly interesting. On Friday afternoon the Rebels made a cavalry reconnaissance, doubtless to ascertain our strength and the position of our new line, when they were met by the Union cavalry under Custer and Merritt, and finally driven back in a severe skirmish. The position of Gen. Sheridan's army at that time was near Kearstown, and about four miles to the south of Winchester.

On Saturday morning the enemy's cavalry, under Lomax, again advanced against our lines. Our pickets first fell back before them, when considerable fighting ensued, resulting in a disastrous repulse of the enemy, who were thereupon pursued by Col. Powell, with great vigor and success, through and beyond Front Royal, with a loss to them of two guns, one hundred and fifty prisoners, several wagons and a large number of horses.

The fighting was done exclusively by the cavalry. Generals Sheridan and Torbert were both in front in person. The Union loss was also considerable. The report, with dispatches from General Sheridan on Saturday evening, was fired on by guerrillas near Bunker Hill, but seem to have escaped without harm. A singular case of Rebel barbarity is reported in the case of Corporal James S. Bennett, of the Second Michigan Cavalry, now in hospital at Winchester. He was captured on the 7th inst., with six of his comrades, by Mosby's men near Berryville.

Three of them were hung immediately by order of the Lieutenant commanding the guerrillas, who then becoming impatient, ordered the remainder to be shot. One of the prisoners succeeded in escaping, but the others were shot and left for dead. Bennett, after being shot by a private through the shoulder, received a bullet from the Lieutenant's revolver through the head. Strained to say, he was not killed, and hopes are entertained that he will recover, with the loss of one eye.

## Gen. Canby Shot.

St. Louis, Monday, Nov. 14, 1864.

Information has been received here that Gen. Canby, while ascending the White River on the gunboat Cricket, was shot by a guerrilla from the shore on the 6th ult., and was seriously, if not fatally, wounded in the groin, the bullet passing through his body.

The steamer Danville passed Cairo, on Saturday with 450 bales of cotton for Cincinnati, and the steamer Abago brought 350 bales to Cairo.

## Disaster to one of the Potomac Flotilla—Many Lives Lost.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Nov. 14, 1864.

Information has been received to-day that the Tulp, attached to the Potomac Flotilla, exploded her boiler on Friday down the river and caused a frightful sacrifice of life. Of the sixty-five persons on board her only ten are accounted for.

## From Fort Monroe.

Fort Monroe, Nov. 13, 1864.

The steamer from City Point last evening brought down about 30 prisoners. The prize steamer Lucy, laden with cotton, arrived here last evening in charge of a prize crew, and sailed for Boston to-day.

The steamer Andrew Harder left yesterday for Baltimore, with two barges in tow. At 6 o'clock last evening they were struck by a heavy squall when off Smith's Point. The barges parted from the steamer and have not since been heard from. The barges were heavily laden with railroad ties. Several men were on board when they parted. The schooner Ella Ogden was also in tow, and has given the above report. The steamer Amanda Winans was immediately sent in search of the missing boats.

A salute was fired yesterday noon by all the men-of-war in this harbor, in honor of the result of the Presidential election.

## The Trial of Col. North.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Nov. 14, 1864.

The trial of Col. North, the New-York State Agent, Marvin M. Jones and Levi Cohen, was resumed to-day. Several witnesses were examined, but nothing of special interest was elicited.

# LATE SOUTHERN NEWS.

MR. LINCOLN'S RE-ELECTION.

We believe that Abraham Lincoln is Chief Magistrate of the country for four years longer. How he accomplished this object—whether the transaction is a victory or a defeat, or a combination of both, is a matter of opinion. There he is, and along with him the whole of our Administration, more bent on slaughter and counter-slaughter than ever before in the history of the world.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 12 o'clock. Prayer by the Rev. Dr. Duncanson, of the Methodist Church.

Mr. Stephen A. Lincoln presented a resolution that a select committee of three be appointed to inquire into the appeal on the part of Congress to the several States for a modification of their laws exempting State officers and other employees from military duty.

## CONFIDENTIAL.

Mr. Anderson, of Georgia, offered a bill to amend the law in relation to the receipt of counterfeit Confederate notes by public officers.

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Mr. Farrow of South Carolina offered a resolution that the Military Commission inquire what legislation is necessary to correct the abuse of the practice of granting furloughs by Generals in the field for recruits, and to prevent said furloughs from being monopolized by a few individuals by purchase.

## MILITARY ARRESTS.

Mr. Murray of Tennessee offered a bill to prevent the malicious arrest of officers of the army.

## AS AN.

Mr. Foote of Tennessee submitted the following resolution: "Resolved, That while we should prosecute the war with all energy and courage, and with steady cooperation with the country at large, the President should be armed with the adequate power to offer a complete amnesty to all such of the citizens of the Confederate States as have been guilty of crime, but who are now willing to support our Government as it is, and to defend our country."

The resolution was made the special order for next Wednesday.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT.

The Speaker, transmitting a communication from the Secretary of War, covering certain reports of the operations of the armies for 1864, which, without being read, were on motion of Mr. Miles referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

## EMPLOYMENT OF NEGROES IN THE ARMY.

On motion of Mr. Chambers of Mississippi, the special order was called up, which was the consideration of his resolution and the report of the Secretary of War, which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

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# FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.  
WASHINGTON, Monday, Nov. 14, 1864.

Col. North's trial was proceeded with to-day, and although a new and rich vein was mined, Judge Advocate Foster deemed the side of the Government sufficiently sustained, and retired. To-morrow it is expected that the defense will commence their counter-pleas, but quite evidently with little hope of being able to exonerate him from complicity with the forgeries and frauds. Wm. A. Beach of Troy appeared to-day as a judicial counsel for Col. North.

## HEALTH OF LORD LYONS.

Lord Lyons is said to be improving.

## HEALTH OF SECRETARY STANTON.

Secretary Stanton is still so indisposed that to-day he was unable to be at the War Office. Major-General Meigs is also confined to his house by indisposition.

## GENERALS IN TOWN.

Generals Burnside, Banks and Rawlins were at the War Office to-day.

## SHERMAN'S MOVEMENTS.

The greatest possible interest attaches to Sherman's movements. The first news from him is looked for via Richmond.

## THE PIRATE FLORIDA.

The action of Capt. Collins in the capture of the Florida in Brazilian waters will be sustained by the Government. Foreign powers may designate those pirates as belligerents, but the United States will take the position that to such they must belong to some recognized and responsible Government. By the confession of Marmaris Abrantes, Brazilian Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Alabama also had her chief rendezvous upon islands which were dependencies of Brazil.

## GOV. FENTON A WITNESS FOR NORTH.

Gov. Fenton is expected here from New-York to-morrow to testify as to Col. North's character and standing in that State. Many other very prominent citizens are also summoned.

## CARE OF PRISONERS.

Gen. H. N. Wessels has received orders to re-leave Gen. Hoffman, Commissary General of Prisoners. Gen. Wessels is to have charge of all prisoners this side of the Mississippi. Gen. Hoffman is ordered to the West, and will have charge of all prisoners west of the Mississippi.

Gen. Wessels is an old army officer and has distinguished himself in the many desperate encounters of the war. He was in command of Plymouth when captured and was among the first of our prisoners placed under fire at Charleston. His health having been seriously affected he is assigned to this new duty with leave of absence. He entered upon his duties this morning. Col. Hoffman, late Commissary General of Prisoners, has been brevetted Brigadier-General and ordered to the charge of all prisoners west side of the Mississippi. He left for New Orleans to-day.

## THE DRAFT.

Six hundred and thirty-eight were drawn to-day to make good the deficiency of three hundred and nineteen in the quota of Washington.

## A PETERSBURG RUMOR.

A rumor comes up from the Potomac Army pretty well authenticated that the Rebels are about evacuating Petersburg.

## DISMISSED FROM SERVICE.

Capt. Arthur A. Brandt, 7th New-York, and Lieut. Edward R. Austin, 15th New-York, have been dismissed the service upon various charges.

## PAYING TROOPS.

Orders have been issued to pay the troops in the district of North Carolina up to the first of November, immediately.

## PUNISHED FOR EMBEZZLEMENT.